



Book	AAPS Policies & Regulations
Section	1000: Bylaws
Title	Participation at Board Meetings
Code	1300
Status	Active
Adopted	December 14, 2022

The Superintendent shall post, or cause to have posted, in the central administration office and other appropriate locations, this section of board bylaws dealing with public commentary at board meetings.

Board Table

Only board members and the Superintendent shall sit at the board meeting table. A location will be provided for representatives from the Ann Arbor Education Association, the Ann Arbor Administrators' Association, the board designated representative student organization(s), the Parent/Guardian Teacher Organization Council, other groups as approved by the board, the press, as well as district administrators and support staff.

Participation

Representative(s) from board designated representative organizations, such as collective bargaining employee groups, district parent organizations, student organizations, and any other board designated groups shall make their statements to the board during the regular meeting as scheduled on the agenda and may participate in discussion when asked to do so by the presider. They shall not, however, participate in the discussion or debate of an item once it has been moved and seconded at a regular meeting.

1. Ann Arbor Administrators Association (AAAA)
2. Ann Arbor Education Association (AAEA)
3. Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee for Special Education (AAPAC)
4. Ann Arbor Public Schools Arab American Advisory Group (AAPS AAAG)
5. Ann Arbor Student Board (A2SB)
6. Ann Arbor Youth Gender and Sexuality Alliance (AAYGSA)
7. Asian Pacific Islander South Asian/American (APISA/A)
8. District Wide Black Parent and Student Support Group (DWBPSG)
9. Parent/Teacher Organization Council (PTOC)

Groups entitled to address the board as described in this bylaw, not specifically named above, shall be designated by the board at its annual organizational meeting, or otherwise at the discretion of the board.

Participation by board created auxiliary committees or task forces, shall be regularly scheduled through the standing committees and regular agenda process.

Public Commentary

Public commentary, typically scheduled near the beginning of all regular meetings of the board, shall be limited to an accumulated time of 45 minutes. At all other meetings of the board, excluding executive sessions, public commentary will be limited to 30 minutes. This limit may be extended at the discretion of the President.

Persons who wish to address the board, and have officially signed up for public commentary, shall be allowed to do so. Individuals may share comments in person or submit comments to be read aloud by AAPS staff. Anonymous comments are not allowed.

The number of speakers will be evenly divided into the 45-minute time limit, and each speaker will be assigned an equal share of time in which to address the board. Maximum time for individual speakers should not exceed four (4) minutes. Exceptions to this time limit may be made at the discretion of the President.

Those who wish to address the board during public commentary time must sign up at least 4 hours in advance of the meeting (i.e. by 3pm for a 7pm meeting) by calling, writing or emailing the Board of Education office or through the online [Public Commentary Sign Up form](#).

Speakers will be placed on the public commentary list on a first-come, first-served basis and announced in that order. The list of speakers will be made public following public commentary time.

Speakers may not cede their time to others, and failure to speak will not increase the time allowed to other speakers. No speaker will be allowed to address the board more than once during the same meeting.

Each speaker should announce their name, community of residence, and whether they represent any organization or agency.

Speakers may submit their comments in writing through the Public commentary sign-up form. Speakers may leave a copy of their written comments for inclusion in the meeting materials archive.

Speakers should take into account the rules of common courtesy and refrain from making personal attacks against employees, volunteers, students, parents, community members, or members of the board. If the comments constitute a complaint against an employee, the employee has the right to request a closed meeting. Speakers are encouraged to present complaints about a specific employee, board member, or student through proper channels established under board policy before requesting board consideration. At no time should a speaker reference a specific individual by name when speaking on an issue of concern involving personnel or students.

Members of the board and district employees will not answer questions during public commentary. Previously stated board policies or administrative rules and regulations and corrections or clarifications to matters of fact may, however, be explained. A board member may, with the President's permission, ask a question of a speaker, otherwise no dialogue is expected.

ADOPTED:

6/30/2009

4/30/2014

1/27/2016(Reauth)

4/15/2020 (Rev per Governor's Executive Order)

7/9/2021 (Rev for electronic meetings)

6/30/2022 (Reauth)

12/14/2022